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Message Text

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60
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 PRS-01 SS-15 PA-01 USIA-06 NSC-05

SY-05 SCCT-01 USSS-00 FBIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR:SOV:LWILLEMS:RBARRY:REH
APPROVED BY EUR:SOV:MGARRISON
IO - MR. CUTTER
C - MR. MONTGOMERY
S/PRS - JFEENEY
S/S- FVORTIZ
EUR/P - F.J. SEIDNER
S/S:FVORTIZ
---------- 002040
P R 042338Z MAR 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NY PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, UR, US, UN

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON INCIDENTS IN NEW YORK

1. FOLLOWING IS DEPARTMENT'S PRESS GUIDANCE ON THREATS AND DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST SMUN. SUBJECT DID NOT COME UP DURING DEPARTMENT'S PRESS BRIEFING MARCH 4.

2. Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ABOUT THIS MORNING'S PETER OSNOS ARTICLE IN THE WASHINGTON POST REPORTING A SOVIET PROTEST IN MOSCOW ABOUT THREATS AND DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST SOVIETS IN NEW YORK? IS IT TRUE THIS WAS THE SECOND SUCH
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PROTEST IN A WEEK?

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3. A. ON FEBRUARY 28 AMBASSADOR STOESSEL RECEIVED A STRONG SOVIET MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PROTEST ABOUT THE FEBRUARY 27 SHOOTING INCIDENT AT THE SOVIET RIVERDALE RESIDENTIAL BUILDING, AND ON MARCH 3 HE RECEIVED A STRONG PROTEST ABOUT A FEBRUARY 29 DEMONSTRATION IN NEW YORK IN WHICH PLACARDS WERE DISPLAYED WHICH THE SOVIETS CONSIDERED THREATENING. YOU WILL RECALL THAT I DEPLORED THE SHOOTING INCIDENT HERE ON FEBRUARY 27. WE RECOGNIZE THAT WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION UNDER THE VIENNA CONVENTION, THE UN HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT, AND INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE TO PROTECT SOVIET DIPLOMATS AND ASSURE THEM NORMAL WORKING CONDITIONS, AND WE ARE ENDEAVORING TO MEET THOSE OBLIGATIONS.

4. Q. ARE THERE ANY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THE SHOOTING INCIDENTS?

5. A. THE FBI AND NYPD ARE CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE. AS I INDICATED ON FEBRUARY 27, THE AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THEY HAVE FOUND THE M-1 CARBINE WHICH WAS USED. THERE HAVE BEEN NO ARRESTS TO MY KNOWLEDGE.

IF ASKED

6. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON NEW YORK PRESS AND TELEVISION REPORTS IDENTIFYING FIVE SOVIET DIPLOMATS AS KGB AGENTS?

7. A. WE HAVE NO COMMENT ON THE ALLEGATIONS. I CAN SAY THAT ONE OF OUR CONCERNS IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT PUBLIC IDENTIFICATION OF ALLEGED INTELLIGENCE AGENTS COULD LEAD TO IRRESPONSIBLE ACTS.

8. Q. DOES THAT MEAN YOU CONDONE THE ASSIGNMENT OF KGB OFFICERS IN THE US?

9. A. FIRST, WE HAVE NO COMMENT ON THE ALLEGATIONS. HOWEVER, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT IN THE EVENT ANY MEMBER OF ANY UN MISSION ABUSES HIS PRIVILEGES UNDER THE HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT OF RESIDENCE WHILE IN THE UNITED
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STATES, THE US GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.
KISSINGER

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NNN

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